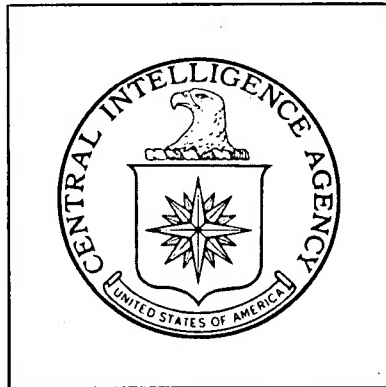


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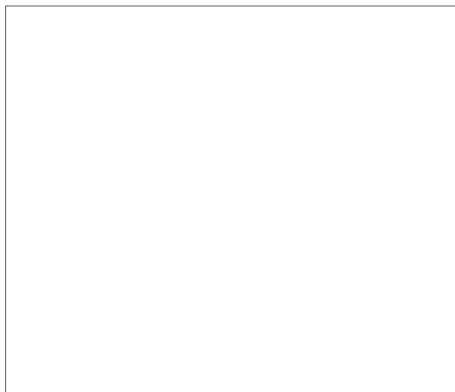
**DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE**

**Industrial Facilities
(Non-Military)**

Basic Imagery Interpretation Report

Chin-tang Fertilizer Plant

Chin-tang, China



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RCS 13/0022/72

DATE FEBRUARY 1972

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25X1CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
Imagery Analysis Service

INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME		COUNTRY	
Chin-tang Fertilizer Plant		CH	
UTM COORDINATES	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES		
48RVK293151	30-51-50N 104-15-20E		
MAP REFERENCE			
2nd RTS. USATC, Series 200, Sheet M0495-7HL, 2nd ed. Dec 64. Scale 1:200,000			
(SECRET)			
LATEST IMAGERY USED		NEGATION DATE (If required)	
		NA	

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ABSTRACT

The primary products of the Chin-tang Fertilizer Plant are ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate fertilizers. A urea fertilizer unit has been added, but it has not yet been observed in operation. Secondary products include sulfuric acid, nitric acid, and aqueous/liquid ammonia.

In March 1963, when the plant was first seen on photography, facilities for the production of ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate fertilizers, sulfuric and nitric acids, and aqueous/liquid ammonia were complete and operating. Between March 1963 and February 1969, a gasholder, a coal receiving and storage building, and several support and storage buildings were constructed. The urea fertilizer production area was added between February 1969 and July 1971.

The plant was in operation on all coverages from March 1963 through February 1969. It was not operating on the latest coverage in July 1971.

This report includes a photograph, a process flow chart, a line drawing of the plant, and a chronological summary of construction and operational status.

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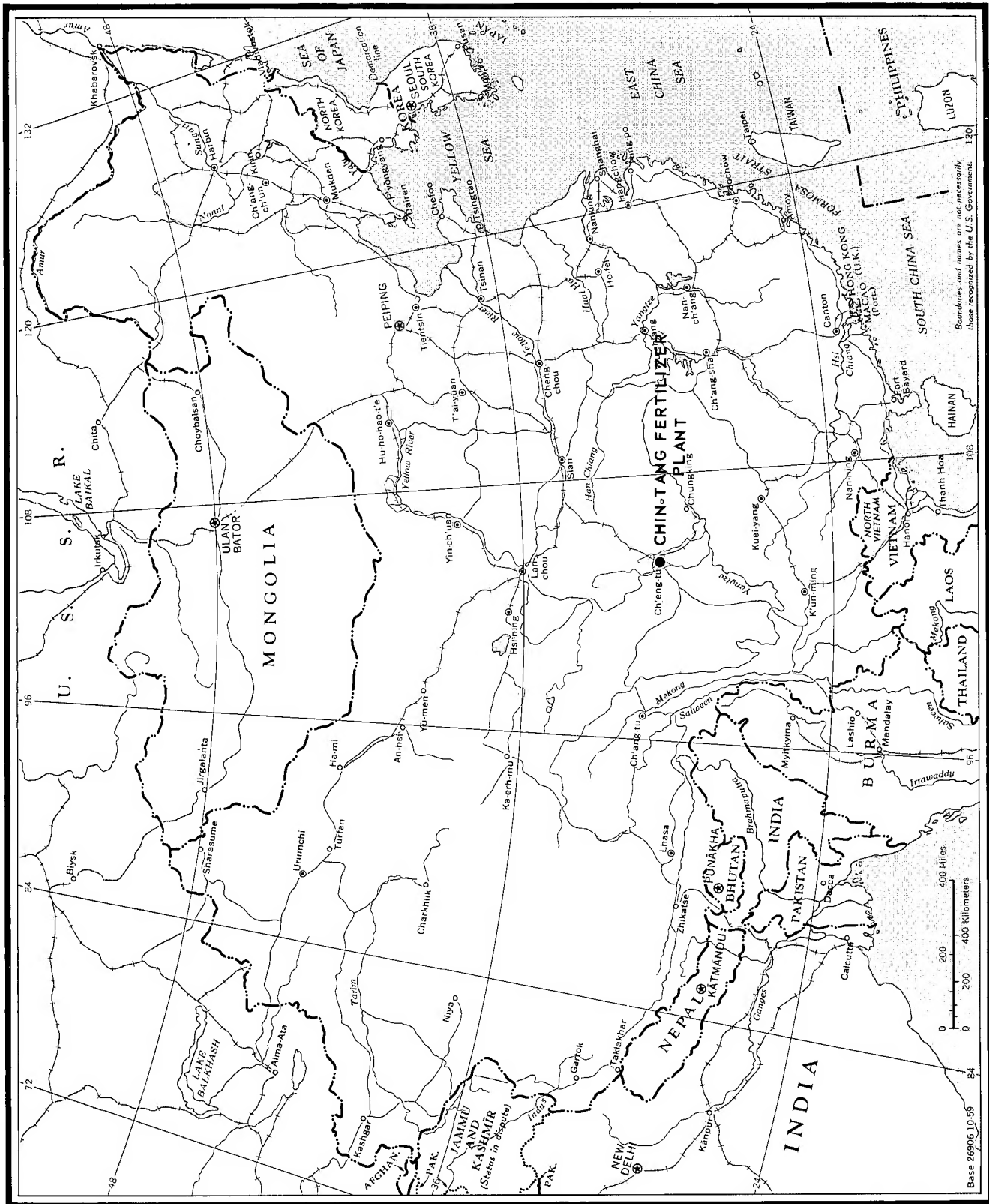


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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INTRODUCTION

The Chin-tang Fertilizer Plant is located 16 nautical miles northeast of the center of Cheng-tu, Szechwan Province (see Figure 1). It is adjacent to the Chin-tang Iron and Steel Plant [] and the Chin-tang Ammonium Bicarbonate Fertilizer Plant (no BE number). Electric power is received from the regional grid system through a collocated transformer substation.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION

Physical Features

The plant area measures approximately 4,000 by 3,900 feet and contains about 290 acres (see Figures 2 and 3). It is secured by a wall. The plant is served by a spur from the Cheng-tu to Te-yang rail line.

Operational Functions

The primary products of the plant are ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate fertilizers. Urea fertilizer will be another primary product when recently constructed urea facilities begin operation. Secondary products include sulfuric acid, nitric acid, and aqueous/liquid ammonia.

Water gas is utilized as the source of nitrogen and hydrogen in the synthesis of ammonia and as a source of carbon dioxide in the production of urea fertilizer. Part of the ammonia is used to produce nitric acid and the remaining ammonia is combined with the nitric acid or sulfuric acid to form ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulfate. Ammonia will also be utilized in the production of urea fertilizer by combining ammonia and carbon dioxide. Sulfuric acid is produced by roasting pyrites to form sulfur dioxide. The sulfur dioxide is then oxidized to sulfur trioxide and absorbed in water to form the acid. The process flow for the plant is shown in Figure 4.

Construction and Operational Status

In March 1963, when the plant was first seen on photography, facilities for the production of ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate fertilizers, sulfuric and nitric acids, and aqueous/liquid ammonia were complete and operating. Between March 1963 and February 1969, a gasholder, a coal receiving and storage building, and several support and storage buildings were constructed. Between February 1969 and July 1971, a urea fertilizer production area and support/storage buildings were added. The construction chronology is shown in Figure 3.

The plant was in operation on all coverages from March 1963 through February 1969, as indicated by vapors from the sulfuric acid plant and ammonium sulfate reactor building and by smoke from the steam plant and retort building. It was not operating on the latest coverage in July 1971.

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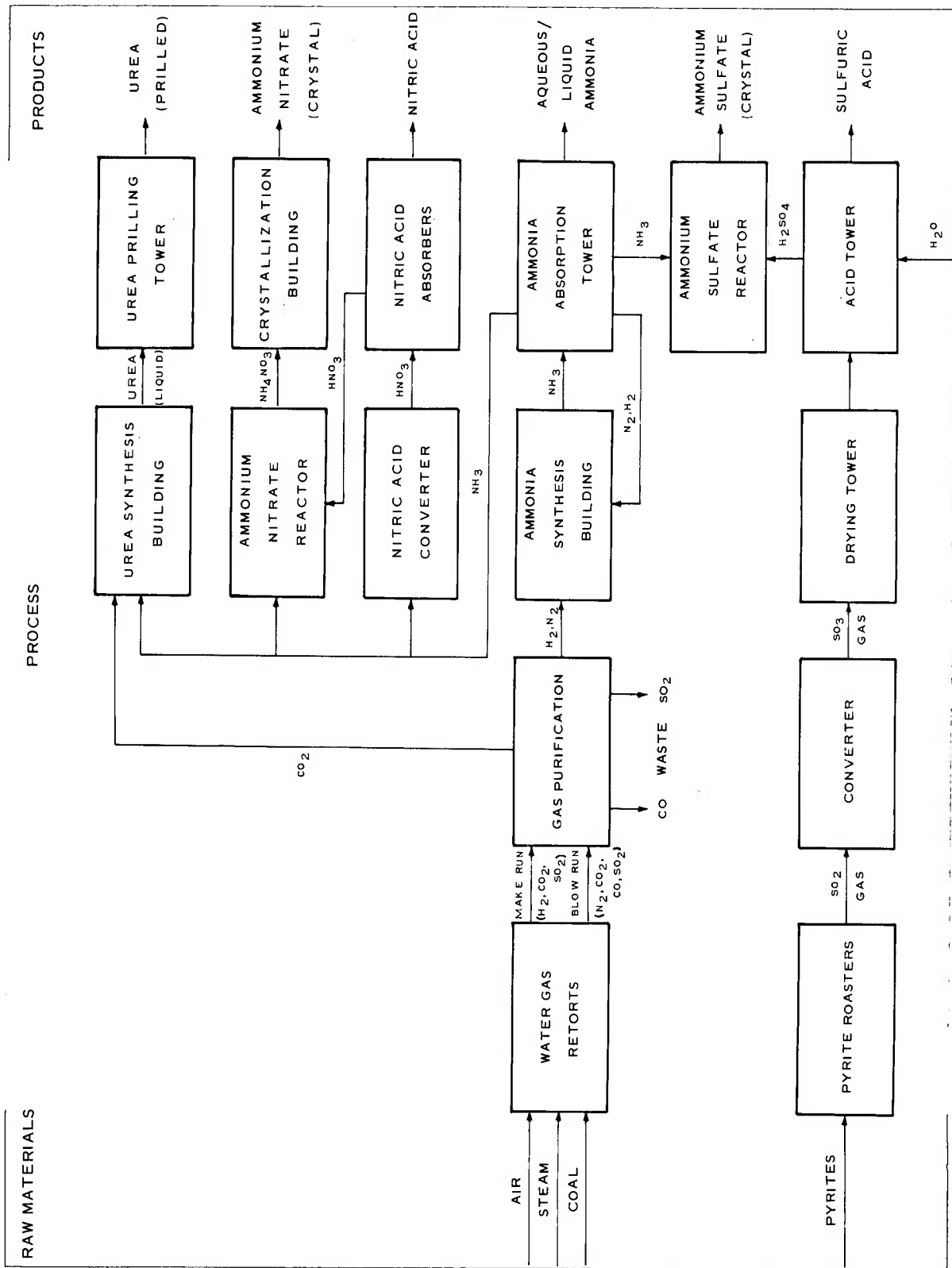
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FIGURE 4. PROCESS FLOW AT CHIN-TANG FERTILIZER PLANT.

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Map

2nd RTS. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet M0495-7HL, 2nd edition,
December 1964, Scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

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Related Document

CIA. By-products of the Szechwan Chemical Factory Near
Cheng-tu, 8 September 1966 (CONFIDENTIAL)

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Requirement

COMIREX NO7
Support Number 422781

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